JAN 2 6 2004 S/N 10/660223

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

ICHIHARA et al.

Examiner:

unknown

Serial No.:

10/660223

Group Art Unit:

3617

Filed:

September 10, 2003

Docket No.:

14470.0002US01

Title:

SMALL-SIZED SURFACE BOAT

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:** 

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop MISSING PARTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 21, 2004.

Name: Sarah Monfeldt

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))**

Mail Stop MISSING PARTS

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

JP 9-164992 is the same as JP 2849578.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a

reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Dated: January 21, 2004

CBH:smm

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

P.O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903

(612) 332-5300

Curtis B. Hamre

Reg. No. 29,165

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FORM 1449*	15	7

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number: 14470.0002US01 Application Number:

10/660223

Applicant: ICHIHARA et al.

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.